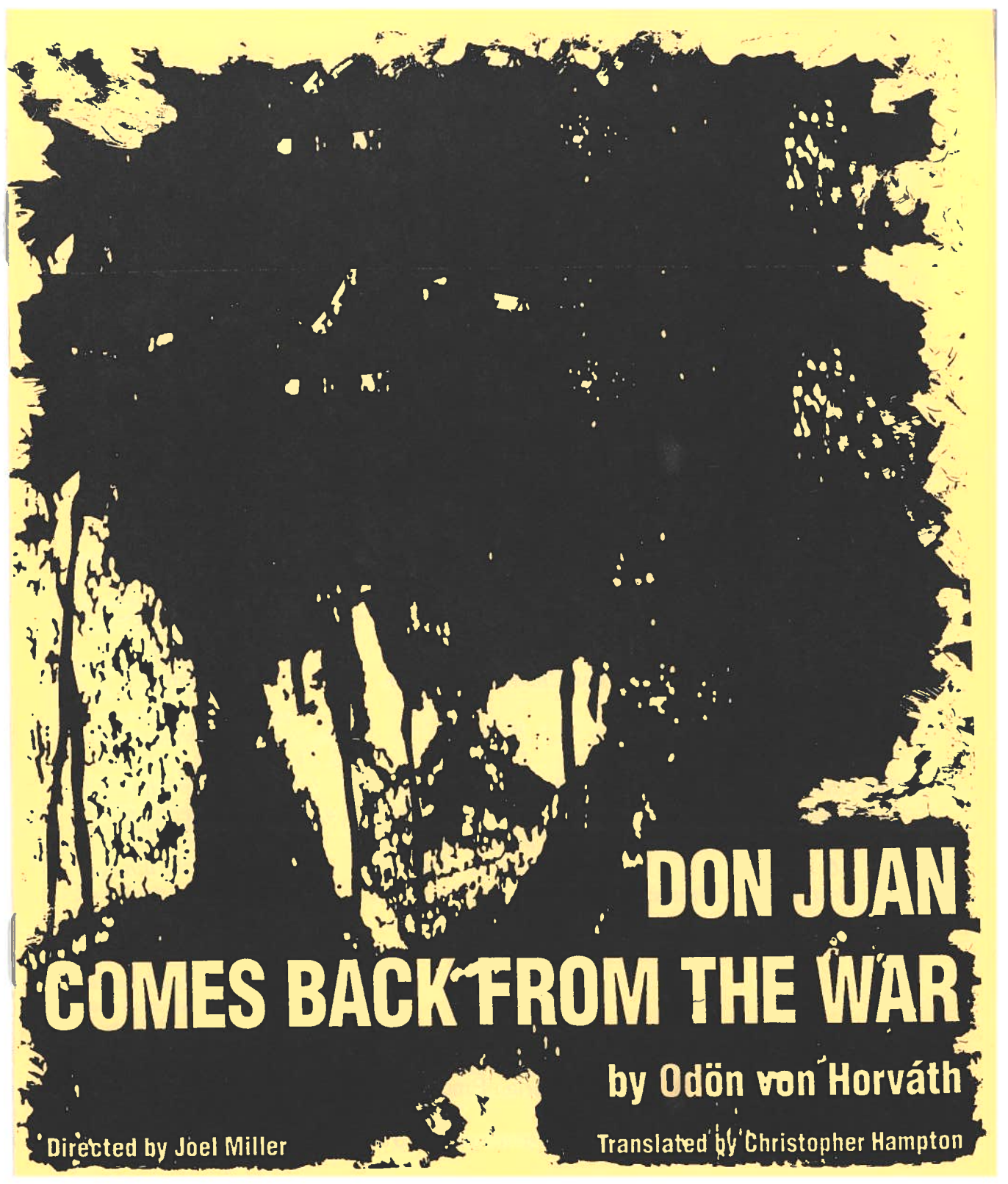

DON JUAN
COMES BACK FROM THE WAR
by Odön von Horváth
Directed by Joel Miller
Translated by Christopher Hampton

Don Juan Comes Back From The War

by Ödön Von Horváth
Translated by Christopher Hampton
Directed by *Joel Miller*
Assistant Director *Diana Griesdorf*
Assistant Director & Dramaturge *Elaine Normandeau*

Co-Set Designers
Brenda Guldenstein
William Reznicek

Lighting Designer
Gaetane Bertol

Props Designer
François Tellier

Co-Costume Designers
Cathy Cochrane
Pat Flood

Asst. Costume Designer
Beth Richardson

Sound Designer
George Venckus

Stage Manager
Monika Renner

Asst. Stage Manager
Andrea Boyd

Master Electrician
Simon Baker

ACT ONE
The War is Over

1. Theatre at the front
2. Street back home
3. The Grandmother's house
4. Street corner
5. The second girl's room
6. Hospital
7. The Grandmother's house

ACT TWO
The Chaos of Inflation

1. Hospital
2. Cafe
3. The Mother's spare room
4. A Profiteer's house
5. Box at the Opera House
6. At the ice-rink
7. The Mother's spare room
8. The Designer's studio
9. The Mother's spare room

ACT THREE
The Snowman

1. Stairwell
2. The Mother's spare room
3. The Profiteer's house
4. The forest deep in snow
5. The Snowman
6. Room at the inn
7. In front of the Grandmother's house
8. Cemetery

The play begins in the late Autumn of 1918 amid the shattered debris of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

There will be two intermissions of 15 minutes each.

CAST

First Aging Soubrette **Hospital Matron** **Mother (Professor's widow)** **First Old Woman in the Forest**	*Rachelle Eves*
Second Aging Soubrette **Widow in the Hospital** **First Lady (Profiteer's friend)**	*Rachel Bertrand*
First Woman in Bread Line **Neighbour** **Second Old Woman in the Forest** **Fat Lady at the Opera** **Landlady**	*Siobhan Rae Kadija Barker*
Grandmother	*Barbara Diabo*
Maid **Second Lady (Actress)** **Second daughter's friend** **Masked Lady**	*Vanessa Batty*
First Girl of Easy Virtue **Café Waitress** **Second Daughter's Friend** **Third Lady (Horse Dealer's girl)**	*Claire Shamy*
Second Girl of Easy Virtue **Second Daughter** **First Village Girl**	*Alexandria Haber*
Nurse **First Designer** **First Daughter** **Fourth Lady (Dentist)**	*Hali Mae Schwartz*
Second Designer **Lady from Berne** **Second Village Girl**	*Shannon Holmes*
Don Juan	*Brett Halna Du Fretay*

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Austrian playwright and novelist, Ödön Von Horváth, had his first major success in 1931\32 with German productions of three of his major plays. Like his German counterparts (Brecht, Thomas & Heinrich Mann, Lion Feuchtwanger, etc.), Horváth was forced to flee his native land with the rise of the oppressive political forces which ultimately lead to the downfall of the Christian Socialist government and the Nazi sweep into Austria in March , 1938. On June 1 of the same year, Horváth was killed in a freak accident on the Champs Elysées in Paris when the tree under which he sheltered during a violent thunderstorm was struck by lightening.

The Nazi ban on his plays and his premature death caused him to sink into relative obscurity outside the German speaking countries until fairly recently. British playwright Christopher Hampton must be credited with bringing Horváth to the attention of the English speaking world with his recent translations of *Tales From the Vienna Woods,* and *Don Juan Comes Back From the War.*

Like Brecht, Horváth was a child of the expressionist movement. Also like Brecht, Horváth moved away from expressionism per se and developed a distinctly personal style linked to the "neue Sachlichkeit" or "new objectivity". He was the master of understatement and innuendo. His texts are dense, full of striking imagery; his characters are complex and contradictory - terrible, desperate liars and fearful, vicious survivors.

In all his plays, Horváth was concerned with the social consequences of repressive political regimes and inflationary, crisis-ridden economies. Like Brecht, his plays are parables, cautionary tales making specific references to contemporary events and conditions. Unlike Brecht, he never engaged in open polemics in his plays, but rather allowed ideologies to confront one another embodied in his characters' actions and attitudes. It is this subtlety and density of characterization, coupled with the intricacy of narrative structure that makes his plays so challenging to artists and audiences alike.

Language and its misuse is a constant concern. He shared with the philosopher and playwright Karl Kraus an absolute revulsion to the empty slogans and clichés of the mass media. He felt that the kind of phony intellectualism of the language in newspapers and on the radio was displacing genuine feeling and was becoming a substitute for real thought. His characters parrot incessantly these ready-made phrases, never thinking for themselves and becoming, in the process, more and more isolated from emotional contact with each other.

Don Juan Comes Back From The War deals with the deadly dangers of harbouring delusions. Although the play has been called Horváth's bleakest drama, it is infused throughout with his ironic wit. We are not meant to like any of his characters; they are petty, mean, pitiable individuals who fall into desperate traps of their own devising because of their extraordinary stupidity. Horváth feared that stupidity with remarkable foresight, and railed against it with consummate eloquence.

PRODUCTION

Scenery Construction Crew	*Lea Carlson* *Jack Custodio* *David Miller* *Stuart Newton* *Todd Haak* *Gail Hamer* *Sylvie St. Laurent* *Mark Towler*
Costume Construction Crew	*Krikor Ajemian* *Paloma Boiles* *Morwyn Brebner* *Harriet Dove* *Penny Georgionis* *Asza Kakese* *Monica Karpinnen* *Lynn MacMartin* *Georgina Sabesky* *Christine Sandilands* *Cindy Roth* *Maddy Lieggi* *Annette Li*
Props Construction Crew Head	*Mandy Callaghan*
Props Construction Crew	*Amanda Euringer* *Dave Hamilton* *Emmet Henchey* *Tracey Houston* *Lisa Leblanc* *Naomi Levine* *Lise Rouillier* *Kathy Smith*
Costume Painting & Dyeing	*Geneviève Dubé*
Costume Painting & Dyeing Assistant	*Sylvie St. Laurent*

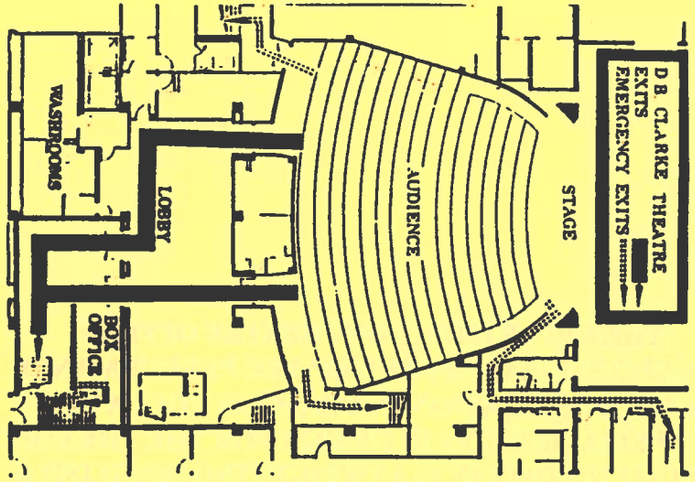
PRODUCTION

Painting Crew Chief	*Matthew Brett*
Running Crew	*Emmanuelle Amoni* *Louis Beaudoin* *Diane Deschênes* *Marcia Doherty* *Trevor Found* *Connie Gariepy* *Kristen Gilbert* *Joan Gottman* *Leigh Hemsworth* *David Hersh* *Paul Hopkins* *Victoria Jakowenko* *Shannon Levesque* *Fiona Meyer* *Ralph Olynyk* *Miranda Weingartner*
Front-of-House Manager	*Susana Madueno*
Front-of-House Crew	*Lisa Bishop* *Tanya Gallus* *Kerry McPherson* *Bonnie Mitchell* *Nikki Pouliot* *Christina Tejeda*
Publicity	*Susana Madueno*
Poster Design	*Brenda Guldenstein*

Department of Theatre Staff

Mary Burns - Theatre Manager
Ana Cappelluto - Asst. Property Master
Anne Clarke - Production Coordinator
Donna Cooper - Production Secretary
Maggie Ewing - Wardrobe Manager
Don Franklin - Carpenter
Pierre-Rene-Goupil - Technical Director
Nicole Marquis - Wardrobe Assistant
Andy Nelson - Asst. Technical Director
Christine Neuss - Cutter
Robert Paquette - Property Master
William Reznicek - Faculty Advisor
Philip Spensley - Department Chair

Note : There is no smoking on University grounds.



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF FINE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

SPECIAL THANKS TO

La Nouvelle Compagnie Théâtrale
Centaur Theatre
Chef Ahmer
La Compagnie Jean Duceppe
Deborah Marsh

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE OFFERS
BFA SPECIALIZATION IN THEATRE PERFORMANCE
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BFA MAJOR IN THEATRE
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